

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1922

## 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES GREEN (73), HANAWAY, O'TOOLE, McKENNA, WAGNER, ST. ONGE, BEARDEN, DEMPSEY (Co-sponsors), FOLEY, ABEL, SHELTON, OSTMANN, HENDRICKSON, CARNAHAN, HICKEY, HILGEMANN, GREEN (15), SECREST, THOMPSON, PORTWOOD, ENZ, FROELKER, MURPHY, GRIESHEIMER, DOLAN, FARES, HOLLINGSWORTH, GAMBARO, FRASER, JOHNSON (90), VILLA, GEORGE, BARRY, HAYWOOD, LIESE, BYRD, SCHEVE, CUNNINGHAM AND BOWMAN.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> time February 13, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

3975L.01I

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 238, RSMo, by adding thereto twenty-seven new sections relating to regional transportation development districts.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 238, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto twenty-seven new sections, to be known as sections 238.500, 238.502, 238.504, 238.506, 238.508, 238.510, 238.512, 238.514, 238.516, 238.518, 238.520, 238.522, 238.524, 238.526, 238.528, 238.530, 238.532, 238.534, 238.536, 238.538, 238.540, 238.542, 238.544, 238.546, 238.548, 238.550, and 238.552, to read as follows:

**238.500. Sections 238.500 to 238.552 shall be known as the "Missouri Regional Transportation Development District Act".**

**238.502. 1. As used in sections 238.500 to 238.552, the following terms mean:**

- (1) "Board", the board of directors of a district;**
- (2) "Commission", the Missouri state highways and transportation commission;**
- (3) "District", a regional transportation development district organized pursuant to sections 238.500 to 238.552;**
- (4) "Local transportation authority", a county, city, village, county highway commission, special road district, interstate compact agency, or any local public authority or political subdivision having jurisdiction over any bridge, street, highway, dock, wharf, ferry, lake, or river port, airport, railroad, light rail, or other transit improvement or service;**

11           (5) "Project" includes construction, renovation, preservation, operation, or  
12 maintenance of any bridge, street, road, highway, access road, interchange, intersection,  
13 signing, signalization, parking lot, bike, or pedestrian improvement, bus stop, station,  
14 garage, terminal, hangar, shelter, rest area, dock, wharf, lake, or river port, airport,  
15 railroad, light rail, or other mass transit and any similar or related improvement or  
16 infrastructure.

17           2. For the purposes of article X, sections 11(c), 16, and 22 of the Constitution of  
18 Missouri, section 137.073, RSMo, and as used in sections 238.500 to 238.552, the following  
19 terms shall have the meanings given:

20           (1) "Approval of the required majority" or "direct voter approval", a simple  
21 majority;

22           (2) "Registered voters", persons qualified and registered to vote pursuant to  
23 chapter 115, RSMo.

          238.504. 1. A district may be created to fund, promote, plan, design, construct,  
2 improve, maintain, and operate one or more projects or to assist in such activity.

3           2. A district is a political subdivision of the state.

          238.506. 1. Whenever the creation of a district is desired, not less than fifty  
2 registered voters from a county or city not within a county may file a petition requesting  
3 the creation of a district. The petition shall be filed in the circuit court of any county or  
4 city not within a county within the proposed district.

5           2. Alternatively, the governing body of any county or city not within a county may  
6 pass a petition allowing voters to decide upon creation of a district. The petition shall be  
7 filed in the circuit court of any county or city not within a county within the proposed  
8 district.

9           3. The proposed district area shall be contiguous and may contain one or more  
10 counties and a city not within a county. Property separated only by public streets shall be  
11 considered contiguous.

12           4. The petition shall set forth:

13           (1) The name, voting residence, and county of residence of each individual  
14 petitioner, or shall recite that the petitioner is the governing body of that city or county  
15 acting in its official capacity;

16           (2) A specific description of the proposed district boundaries including a map  
17 illustrating such boundaries;

18           (3) A general description of the transportation projects proposed to be undertaken  
19 by that district;

20           (4) The name of the proposed district;



25 ..... Clerk of the Circuit Court of ..... County.

26       2. The circuit clerk shall also submit the same notice to the commission.

27       3. The circuit court may also order a public hearing on the question of the creation  
28 of the proposed district, if it deems such appropriate, under such terms and conditions as  
29 it deems appropriate. If a public hearing is ordered, notice of the time, date, and place of  
30 the hearing shall also be given in the notice specified in this section

**238.510. 1.** If the circuit court certifies the petition for voter approval, it shall call  
2 an election pursuant to section 238.512.

3       2. At such election for voter approval of the qualified voters, the questions shall  
4 be submitted in substantially the following form:

5       Shall there be organized in (here specifically describe the proposed district  
6 boundaries), within the state of Missouri, a regional transportation development district,  
7 to be known as the "..... Regional Transportation Development District" for the  
8 purpose of funding transportation projects and to have the power to fund the proposed  
9 projects upon voter approval by any or all of the following methods: sales tax, tolls, and  
10 bonds?

11       3. The results of the election shall be entered upon the records of the circuit court  
12 of the county or city not within a county in which the petition was filed. Also, a certified  
13 copy thereof shall be filed with the clerk of each county or city not within a county of the  
14 proposed district, who shall cause the same to be spread upon the records of the county  
15 commission or the city not within a county. If the results show that a majority of the votes  
16 cast by the qualified voters were in favor of organizing the regional transportation  
17 development district, the circuit court having jurisdiction of the matter shall declare the  
18 district organized. If the results show that less than a majority of the votes cast by the  
19 qualified voters were in favor of the organization of the district, the circuit court shall  
20 declare that the question has failed to pass, and the same question shall not be again  
21 submitted for voter approval for two years.

**238.512. 1.** Except as otherwise provided in section 238.516 with respect to the  
2 election of directors, in order to call any election required or allowed in sections 238.500  
3 to 238.552, the circuit court shall order the clerk to cause the questions to appear on the  
4 ballot on the next regularly scheduled municipal, or state general, primary, or special  
5 election day, which date shall be the same in each county or city not within a county  
6 included within and voting upon the proposed district.

7       2. The results of the election shall be entered upon the records of the circuit court  
8 of the county in which the petition was filed. Also, a certified copy thereof shall be filed  
9 with the clerk of each county and city not within a county of the proposed district, who

10 shall cause the same to be spread upon the records of the county commission and the city  
11 not within a county.

238.514. The costs of filing and defending the petition and all publication and  
2 incidental costs incurred in obtaining circuit court certification of the petition for voter  
3 approval shall be paid by the petitioners. If a district is organized pursuant to sections  
4 238.500 to 238.552, the petitioners may be reimbursed for such costs out of the revenues  
5 received by the district.

238.516. 1. At the time of the organizing election, three directors from each county  
2 or city not within a county shall be elected.

3 2. Candidates shall pay the sum of fifty dollars as a filing fee to the clerk of the  
4 county or city not within a county and shall file with the election authority of such county  
5 or city not within a county a statement under oath that the candidate possesses all of the  
6 qualifications set out in this section for a director. Thereafter, such candidate shall have  
7 the candidate's name placed on the ballot as a candidate for director.

8 3. The director or directors to be elected shall be elected at large within the county  
9 or city not within a county. The candidate receiving the most votes from qualified voters  
10 shall be elected to the position having the six-year term, the second highest total votes  
11 elected to the position having the four-year term, and the third highest total votes elected  
12 to the position having a two-year term. Each initial director shall serve the term to which  
13 the director was elected, and until a successor is duly elected and qualified. Each successor  
14 director shall serve a six-year term. The directors shall nominate and elect an interim  
15 director to complete any unexpired term of a director caused by resignation or  
16 disqualification.

17 4. Each director shall be a resident of the district. Directors shall be registered  
18 voters at least twenty-one years of age.

238.518. 1. The board shall possess and exercise all of the district's legislative and  
2 executive powers.

3 2. The board shall meet within thirty days after the election of the initial directors.  
4 The time and place of the first meeting of the board shall be designated by the court that  
5 heard the petition upon the court's own initiative or upon the petition of any interested  
6 person. At its first meeting and after each election of new board members the board shall  
7 elect a chair from its members.

8 3. The board shall appoint an executive director, district secretary, treasurer, and  
9 such other officers or employees as it deems necessary.

10 4. At the first meeting, the board, by resolution, shall define the first and  
11 subsequent fiscal years of the district, and shall adopt a corporate seal.

12           **5. A simple majority of the board shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum exists,**  
13 **a majority of those voting shall have the authority to act in the name of the board, and**  
14 **approve any board resolution.**

15           **6. Each director shall devote such time to the duties of the office as the faithful**  
16 **discharge thereof may require and may be reimbursed for actual and necessary**  
17 **expenditures in the performance of duties on behalf of the district.**

**238.520. 1. Before construction of any project to be merged into the state highways**  
2 **and transportation system, the district shall submit the proposed project, together with the**  
3 **proposed plans and specifications, to the commission for its prior approval of the project.**  
4 **If the commission by minute finds that the project will improve or is a necessary or**  
5 **desirable extension of the state highways and transportation system, the commission may**  
6 **approve the project subject to the district making any revisions in the plans and**  
7 **specifications required by the commission and the district and commission entering into**  
8 **a mutually satisfactory agreement regarding development and future maintenance of the**  
9 **project. After the commission approves the final construction plans and specifications, the**  
10 **district shall obtain prior commission approval of any modification of such plans or**  
11 **specifications.**

12           **2. Before construction of any project that is not intended to be merged into the state**  
13 **highways and transportation system under the commission's jurisdiction, the district shall**  
14 **submit the proposed project, together with proposed plans and specifications, to the local**  
15 **transportation authority for its prior approval. The local transportation authority may**  
16 **approve the project subject to the district making any revisions in the plans and**  
17 **specifications required by the local transportation authority and the district and the local**  
18 **transportation authority entering into a mutually satisfactory agreement regarding**  
19 **development and future maintenance of the project. After the local transportation**  
20 **authority approves the final construction plans and specifications, the district shall obtain**  
21 **prior approval of the local transportation authority before modifying such plans or**  
22 **specifications.**

**238.522. 1. A district may use sales taxes, tolls, or bonds specifically authorized by**  
2 **sections 238.500 to 238.552 to fund a project.**

3           **2. At any time during the existence of the district the board may submit or resubmit**  
4 **a proposed funding method authorized by sections 238.500 to 238.552 for transportation**  
5 **projects to the qualified voters for approval.**

6           **3. The district may by contract with the commission agree to send to the**  
7 **commission any revenue received by the district from any funding method authorized by**  
8 **sections 238.500 to 238.552. Such revenue and interest therefrom shall be deposited by the**

9 commission pursuant to section 227.180, RSMo, and applied by the commission to project  
10 costs, including debt service, on revenue bonds, or refunding bonds issued by the  
11 commission.

12 **4. Revenue raised by the regional transportation development district shall provide**  
13 **additional funding for transportation projects and purposes. The commission shall not**  
14 **reduce funding from any source provided to the area covered by the regional**  
15 **transportation development district below the amount received in the fiscal year of the**  
16 **district's organization except when state or federal taxes or fees are reduced, in which case**  
17 **the reduction must not exceed the proportion of the tax or fee reduction. The commission**  
18 **shall increase funding in each fiscal year to the area covered by the regional transportation**  
19 **development district by at least the percent growth in all funding sources. Any and all**  
20 **federal funds designated by federal law, regulation, or appropriation to the area covered**  
21 **by the regional transportation development district must be passed through to the district**  
22 **in full.**

23 **5. The district may by contract with a local transportation authority agree to send**  
24 **the local transportation authority any revenue received by the district. The local**  
25 **transportation authority shall deposit such revenue in a special local trust account. Such**  
26 **revenue and interest therefrom shall be applied by the local transportation authority to**  
27 **project costs.**

**238.524. 1. Any transportation development district which consists of one or more**  
2 **counties or city not within a county, may by resolution impose a regional transportation**  
3 **development district sales tax on all retail sales made in such regional transportation**  
4 **development district which are subject to taxation pursuant to sections 144.010 to 144.525,**  
5 **RSMo, for any transportation development purpose designated by the regional**  
6 **transportation development district in its ballot of submission to its qualified voters. No**  
7 **resolution enacted pursuant to the authority granted by this section shall be effective unless**  
8 **the board of directors of the regional transportation development district submits to the**  
9 **qualified voters of the regional transportation development district, at a municipal or state**  
10 **general, primary, or special election, a proposal to authorize the board of directors of the**  
11 **transportation development district to impose a sales tax or tolls pursuant to this section.**

12 **2. The ballot of submission shall contain, but need not be limited to, the following**  
13 **language:**

14 **Shall the regional transportation development district of ..... (regional**  
15 **transportation development district's name) impose a regional transportation development**  
16 **district-wide sales tax at the rate of (insert amount) for a period of .....(insert number)**  
17 **years from the date on which such tax is first imposed for the purpose funding**

18 **transportation projects?**

19 ☐ **YES**

☐ **NO**

20

21 **If you are in favor of the question, place an "X" in the box opposite "YES". If you are**  
22 **opposed to the question, place an "X" in the box opposite "NO".**

23

24 **If a majority of the votes cast on the proposal by the qualified voters voting thereon are in**  
25 **favor of the proposal, then the resolution and any amendments thereto shall be in effect.**

26 **If a majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters voting are opposed to the proposal,**  
27 **then the board of directors of the regional transportation development district shall have**  
28 **no power to impose the sales tax authorized by this section unless and until the board of**  
29 **directors of the regional transportation development district shall again have submitted**  
30 **another proposal to authorize it to impose the sales tax pursuant to the provisions of this**  
31 **section and such proposal is approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting thereon.**

32 **3. Within ten days after the adoption of any resolution in favor of the adoption of**  
33 **a regional transportation development district sales tax by the qualified voters of such**  
34 **regional transportation development district, the regional transportation development**  
35 **district shall forward to the director of revenue, by United States registered mail or**  
36 **certified mail, a certified copy of the resolution of its board of directors. The resolution**  
37 **shall reflect the effective date thereof. The sales tax authorized by this section shall become**  
38 **effective on the first day of the second calendar quarter after the director of revenue**  
39 **receives notice of adoption of such tax.**

40 **4. On and after the effective date of any tax imposed pursuant to this section, the**  
41 **director of revenue shall perform all functions incident to the administration, collection,**  
42 **enforcement, and operation of the tax, and the director of revenue shall collect, in addition**  
43 **to all other sales taxes imposed by law, the additional tax authorized pursuant to this**  
44 **section. The tax imposed pursuant to this section and the taxes imposed pursuant to all**  
45 **other laws of the state of Missouri shall be collected together, and reported upon such**  
46 **forms and pursuant to such administrative rules and regulations as may be prescribed by**  
47 **the director of revenue.**

48 **5. All revenue received by a regional transportation development district from the**  
49 **tax authorized by this section which has been designated for certain transportation**  
50 **purpose, less one percent to pay for the costs of collection deposited by the department of**  
51 **revenue in the state's general revenue fund, shall be deposited by the district in a special**  
52 **local trust fund and shall be used solely for such designated purpose. Upon the expiration**  
53 **of the period of years approved by the qualified voters pursuant to this section or if the tax**



54 authorized by this section is repealed pursuant to this section, all funds remaining in the  
55 special local trust fund shall continue to be used solely for such designated transportation  
56 purposes. Any funds in such special local trust fund which are not needed for current  
57 expenditures may be invested by the board of directors in accordance with applicable laws  
58 relating to the investment of other regional transportation development district funds.

59       6. The sales tax may be imposed at a rate of up to one percent on the receipts from  
60 the sale at retail of all tangible personal property or taxable services at retail within the  
61 regional transportation development district adopting such tax, if such property and  
62 services are subject to taxation by the state of Missouri pursuant to sections 144.010 to  
63 144.525, RSMo, except such regional transportation development district sales tax shall not  
64 apply to the sale or use of motor vehicles, trailers, boats, or outboard motors nor to public  
65 utilities. Any regional transportation development district sales tax imposed pursuant to  
66 this section shall be imposed at a rate that shall be uniform throughout the district.

67       7. The resolution imposing the sales tax pursuant to this section shall impose upon  
68 all sellers a tax for the privilege of engaging in the business of selling tangible personal  
69 property or rendering taxable services at retail to the extent and in the manner provided  
70 in sections 144.010 to 144.525, RSMo, and the rules and regulations of the director of  
71 revenue issued pursuant thereto; except that the rate of the tax shall be the rate imposed  
72 by the resolution as the sales tax. The amount reported and returned to the director of  
73 revenue by the seller shall be computed on the basis of the combined rate of the tax  
74 imposed by sections 144.010 to 144.525, RSMo, and the tax imposed by the resolutions as  
75 authorized by this section, plus any amounts imposed pursuant to other provisions of law.

76       8. (1) All applicable provisions contained in sections 144.010 to 144.525, RSMo,  
77 governing the state sales tax, sections 32.085 and 32.087, RSMo, governing local sales taxes,  
78 and section 32.057, RSMo, the uniform confidentiality provision, shall apply to the  
79 collection of the tax imposed in this section, except as modified in this section.

80       (2) All exemptions granted to agencies of government, organizations, persons, and  
81 to the sale of certain articles and items of tangible personal property and taxable services  
82 pursuant to sections 144.010 to 144.525, RSMo, are hereby made applicable to the  
83 imposition and collection of the tax imposed in this section.

84       (3) The same sales tax permit, exemption certificate, and retail certificate required  
85 by sections 144.010 to 144.525, RSMo, for the administration and collection of the state  
86 sales tax shall satisfy the requirements of this section, and no additional permit or  
87 exemption certificate or retail certificate shall be required; except that the regional  
88 transportation development district may prescribe a form of exemption certificate for an  
89 exemption from the tax imposed by this section.

90           (4) All discounts allowed the retailer pursuant to the state sales tax laws for the  
91 collection of and for payment of taxes pursuant to such laws are hereby allowed and made  
92 applicable to any taxes collected pursuant to this section.

93           (5) The penalties provided in section 32.057, RSMo, and sections 144.010 to  
94 144.525, RSMo, for violation of those sections are hereby made applicable to violations of  
95 this section.

96           (6) For the purpose of a sales tax imposed by a resolution pursuant to this section,  
97 all retail sales except retail sales of motor vehicles shall be deemed to be consummated at  
98 the place of business of the retailer unless the tangible personal property sold is delivered  
99 by the retailer or the retailer's agent to an out-of-state destination or to a common carrier  
100 for delivery to an out-of-state destination. In the event a retailer has more than one place  
101 of business in this state which participates in the sale, the sale shall be deemed to be  
102 consummated at the place of business of the retailer where the initial order for the tangible  
103 personal property is taken, even though the order must be forwarded elsewhere for  
104 acceptance, approval of credit, shipment, or billing. A sale by a retailer's employee shall  
105 be deemed to be consummated at the place of business from which the employee works.

106           9. If any regional transportation development district repeals the tax authorized  
107 by this section, the regional transportation development district shall notify the director  
108 of revenue of the action at least ninety days before the effective date of the repeal and the  
109 director of revenue may order retention, for a period of one year, of two percent of the  
110 amount collected after receipt of such notice to cover possible refunds or overpayment of  
111 such tax and to redeem dishonored checks and drafts deposited to the credit of such  
112 accounts. After one year has elapsed after the effective date of repeal of the tax authorized  
113 by this section in such regional transportation development district, the director of revenue  
114 shall remit the balance in the account to the regional transportation development district  
115 and close the account of that transportation development district. The director of revenue  
116 shall notify each regional transportation development district of each instance of any  
117 amount refunded or any check redeemed from receipts due the regional transportation  
118 development district.

119           10. (1) No regional transportation development district imposing a sales tax  
120 pursuant to this section may repeal or amend such sales tax unless such repeal or  
121 amendment will not impair the district's ability to repay any liabilities which it has  
122 incurred, money which it has borrowed, or revenue bonds, notes, or other obligations  
123 which it has issued or which have been issued by the commission to finance any project or  
124 projects.

125           (2) Whenever the board of directors of any regional transportation development

126 district in which a regional transportation development sales tax has been imposed  
127 pursuant to this section receives a petition, signed by ten percent of the qualified voters of  
128 such regional transportation development district calling for an election to repeal such  
129 sales tax, the board of directors shall, if such repeal will not impair the district's ability to  
130 repay any liabilities which it has incurred, money which it has borrowed, or revenue  
131 bonds, notes, or other obligations which it has issued or which have been issued by the  
132 commission to finance any project or projects, submit to the voters of such regional  
133 transportation development district a proposal to repeal the sales tax imposed pursuant  
134 to this section at the next municipal, state general, primary, or special election. If a  
135 majority of the votes cast on the proposal by the qualified voters voting thereon are in  
136 favor of the proposal to repeal the sales tax, then the resolution imposing the sales tax,  
137 along with any amendments thereto, is repealed. If a majority of the votes cast by the  
138 qualified voters voting thereon are opposed to the proposal to repeal the sales tax, then the  
139 ordinance or resolution imposing the sales tax, along with any amendments thereto, shall  
140 remain in effect.

238.526. 1. If approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question  
2 in the district, the district may charge and collect tolls or fees for the use of a  
3 transportation project. The board may charge a lower toll rate or fee than that amount  
4 approved by the district voters, and may increase that lower toll rate or fee to a level not  
5 exceeding the toll or fee rate ceiling without voter approval. Toll rates or fees for the use  
6 of the same project may vary at the election of the board, depending upon the type or  
7 nature of the user, or the type or nature of the use.

8 2. The ballot of submission shall be substantially in the following form:

9 Shall the Regional Transportation Development District be authorized to charge  
10 tolls or fees in amounts not to exceed those given below:

11

12 Maximum Toll or Fee Toll or Fee Description

13

14 (Insert amount) (Insert a brief description of the toll or fee, distinguishing it from other  
15 tolls or fees to be charged on the same project)

16

17 (Insert amount) (Describe the next toll or fee charged)

18

19 (Etc.) (Etc.) for the purpose of providing revenue to fund a project (or projects) in the  
20 district (insert general description of the project or projects, if necessary)?

21

☐ YES

☐ NO

22 If you are in favor of the question, place an "X" in the box opposite "YES". If you are  
23 opposed to the question, place an "X" in the box opposite "NO".

24 3. To construct a toll facility, a district may relocate an existing state highway or  
25 bridge, subject to approval by the commission, or an existing local public bridge, street, or  
26 road, subject to approval by the local transportation authority having control and  
27 jurisdiction over such street or road. A district shall not incorporate an existing free public  
28 bridge, street, road, or highway into a district project that will be subject to tolls.

238.528. A district may:

- 2 (1) Contract and incur liabilities appropriate to accomplish its purposes;
- 3 (2) Lease or lease-purchase any real or personal property necessary or convenient  
4 for its purposes;
- 5 (3) Borrow money for its purposes at such rates of interest as the district may  
6 determine; and
- 7 (4) Issue bonds, notes, and other obligations, and may secure any of such  
8 obligations by mortgage, pledge, assignment, or deed of trust of any or all of the property  
9 and income of the district, subject to the restrictions provided in sections 238.500 to  
10 238.552. The district shall not mortgage, pledge, or give a deed of trust on any real  
11 property or interests which it obtained by eminent domain. The district shall not  
12 mortgage, pledge, or give a deed of trust on any real property or interests which it acquired  
13 from the state of Missouri or any agency or political subdivision thereof without the  
14 written consent of the state, agency, or political subdivision from which it obtained the  
15 property.

238.530. 1. A district may at any time authorize or issue revenue bonds for the  
2 purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of any project. Every issue of such bonds shall  
3 be payable out of the revenues of the district and may be further secured by other property  
4 of the district which may be pledged, assigned, mortgaged, or a security interest granted  
5 for such payment, without preference or priority of the first bonds issued, subject to any  
6 agreement with the holders of any other bonds pledging any specified property or  
7 revenues. Such bonds shall be authorized by resolution of the district, and if issued by the  
8 district, shall bear such date or dates, and shall mature at such time or times, but not in  
9 excess of twenty-five years, as the resolution shall specify. Such bonds shall be in such  
10 denomination, bear interest at such rate or rates, be in such form, either coupon or  
11 registered, be issued as current interest bonds, compound interest bonds, variable rate  
12 bonds, convertible bonds, or zero coupon bonds, be issued in such manner, be payable in  
13 such place or places and subject to redemption as such resolution may provide  
14 notwithstanding section 108.170, RSMo. The bonds may be sold at either public or private

15 sale, at such interest rates, and at such price or prices as the district shall determine.

16       2. Any issue of district bonds outstanding may be refunded at any time by the  
17 district by issuing its refunding bonds in such amount as the district may deem necessary.  
18 Such bonds may not exceed the amount sufficient to refund the principal of the bonds so  
19 to be refunded together with any unpaid interest thereon and any premiums, commissions,  
20 service fees, and other expenses necessary to be paid in connection with the refunding. Any  
21 such refunding may be effected whether the bonds to be refunded then shall have matured  
22 or thereafter shall mature, either by sale of the refunding bonds and the application of the  
23 proceeds thereof to the payment of the bonds being refunded or by the exchange of the  
24 refunding bonds for the bonds being refunded with the consent of the holder or holders of  
25 the bonds being refunded. Refunding bonds may be issued regardless of whether the  
26 bonds being refunded were issued in connection with the same project or a separate project  
27 and regardless of whether the bonds proposed to be refunded shall be payable on the same  
28 date or different dates or shall be due serially or otherwise.

29       3. If the proposed project is intended to be merged into the state highways and  
30 transportation system for future maintenance under the commission's jurisdiction, the  
31 district may contract with the commission to assist it in issuing district revenue bonds and  
32 refunding bonds. The district may also contract with the commission to issue commission  
33 revenue bonds and refunding bonds and to loan the proceeds thereof to the district. Such  
34 bonds shall be authorized by commission minute and shall be issued subject to conditions  
35 applicable to bonds issued by the district but as determined by the commission rather than  
36 the district.

37       4. Bonds issued pursuant to this section shall exclusively be the responsibility of the  
38 district payable solely out of district funds and property provided in sections 238.500 to  
39 238.552 and shall not constitute a debt or liability of the state of Missouri or any agency  
40 or political subdivision of the state. Neither the district nor the commission shall be  
41 obligated to pay such bonds with any funds other than those specifically pledged to  
42 repayment of the bonds. Any bonds issued by a district or the commission shall state on  
43 their face that they are not obligations of the state of Missouri or any agency or political  
44 subdivision thereof other than the district.

45       5. Bonds issued pursuant to this section, the interest thereon, or any proceeds from  
46 such bonds shall be exempt from taxation in the state of Missouri for all purposes except  
47 the state estate tax.

238.532. The district may:

- 2       (1) Purchase land or receive contributions of land and cash for project  
3 right-of-way;

- 4           (2) Limit and control access from adjacent property to a district project; and  
5           (3) Sell and convey excess right-of-way for fair market value to any person or  
6 entity.

238.534. 1. The district may condemn lands for a project in the name of the state  
2 of Missouri as to the necessity for the taking of the description of the parcel and the  
3 interest taken in that parcel.

4           2. If condemnation becomes necessary the district shall act pursuant to chapter 523,  
5 RSMo, and may condemn a fee simple or other interest in land.

6           3. The district may, after prior notice to the owner to enter upon private property,  
7 survey and determine the most advantageous route and design. The district shall be liable  
8 for all damages done to the property by such inspection.

9           4. Any person who involuntarily transfers any interest in land to a district which  
10 becomes insolvent and comes under the jurisdiction of a court may reacquire that property  
11 by paying to the district the total amount of the condemnation award for that parcel, plus  
12 statutory interest at the statutory rate from the date of taking on the amount of that award,  
13 if the project will not be completed by either the district, the commission, or a local  
14 transportation authority.

15           5. Whenever a district undertakes any project which results in the acquisition of  
16 real property or in any person or persons being displaced from their homes, businesses, or  
17 farms, the district shall provide relocation assistance and make relocation payments to  
18 such displaced person and do such other acts and follow such procedures as would be  
19 necessary to comply with the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property  
20 Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended.

238.536. The district may contract with:

2           (1) A federal agency, a state or its agencies and political subdivisions, the  
3 commission, a local transportation authority, a corporation, partnership, or individual  
4 regarding funding, promotion, planning, designing, constructing, improving, maintaining,  
5 or operating a project or to assist in such activity; and

6           (2) The commission to transfer the project to the commission free of cost or  
7 encumbrance on such terms set forth by contract. The commission is authorized to adopt  
8 reasonable administrative rules relating to regional transportation development districts  
9 under chapter 536, RSMo;

10           (3) The local transportation authority to transfer the project to the local  
11 transportation authority free of cost or encumbrance on such terms set forth by contract.

238.538. In addition to all other powers granted by sections 238.500 to 238.552, the  
2 district shall have the following general powers:

3           (1) To sue and be sued in its own name, and to receive service of process, which  
4 shall be served upon the district secretary;

5           (2) To fix compensation of its employees and contractors. All contracts in excess  
6 of ten thousand dollars between the district and any private person, firm, or corporation  
7 shall be competitively bid and shall be awarded to the lowest and best bidder;

8           (3) To purchase any personal property necessary or convenient for its activities.  
9 All outright purchases of personal property in excess of ten thousand dollars between the  
10 district and any private person, firm, or corporation shall be competitively bid and shall  
11 be awarded to the lowest and best bidder;

12           (4) To collect and disburse funds for its activities; and

13           (5) To exercise such other implied powers necessary or convenient for the district  
14 to accomplish its purposes which are not inconsistent with its express powers.

238.540. 1. The district may obtain such insurance as it deems appropriate,  
2 considering its legal limits of liability, to protect itself, its officers, and its employees from  
3 any potential liability, and may also obtain such other types of insurance as it deems  
4 necessary to protect against loss of its real or personal property of any kind. The cost of  
5 this insurance shall be charged against the project.

6           2. The district may also require contractors performing construction or  
7 maintenance work on the project to obtain liability insurance having the district, its  
8 directors, and its employees as additional named insureds.

9           3. The district shall not attempt to self-insure for its potential liabilities unless it  
10 finds that it has sufficient funds available to cover any anticipated judgments or  
11 settlements and still complete its project without interruption. The district may self-insure  
12 if it is unable to obtain liability insurance coverage at a rate which is economically feasible  
13 to the district, considering its resources.

238.542. The district may contract with the commission and local transportation  
2 authorities to obtain assistance in project funding, promotion, planning, design,  
3 right-of-way acquisition, relocation assistance services, construction, preservation,  
4 maintenance, and operation. The commission or any local transportation authority may  
5 charge the district a reasonable fee, not exceeding the actual cost of providing the service.  
6 The commission is authorized to adopt reasonable administrative rules relating to regional  
7 transportation development districts pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo. No rule or portion  
8 of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of this section shall become effective unless  
9 it has been promulgated pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo.

238.544. The state of Missouri, upon approval by an appropriate act of the general  
2 assembly, the commission, or a local transportation authority holding title to real estate,

3 may give, grant, and convey to or for the use of a district such right-of-way or other  
4 easement in such real estate as may be necessary for the development of a project.

238.546. 1. For the purpose of law enforcement, all district projects to be  
2 transferred to the commission shall be treated as commission highways under chapter 43,  
3 RSMo, and all projects to be transferred to a local transportation authority shall be treated  
4 as streets or roads of that entity.

5 2. All laws of this state relating to maintaining, signing, damaging, and obstructing  
6 roads shall apply to district projects. The duties and powers imposed by such laws on  
7 certain officials shall devolve upon the district's engineer or other employee designated by  
8 the board. Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to interfere with, restrict, or limit  
9 the authority of the commission to govern and control highway marking, signalization, and  
10 signing to the extent the commission is authorized by law.

11 3. For outdoor advertising and junkyard control purposes, a district project may  
12 be designated by the commission as a part of the state primary highway system and by a  
13 local transportation authority as a part of its street or road system.

238.548. Unless otherwise approved by contract of the district, project  
2 improvements shall not be under the control and jurisdiction of a local transportation  
3 authority while the district retains control and jurisdiction over the project. The  
4 provisions of chapter 228, RSMo, are inapplicable to transportation development districts.

238.550. The state auditor shall audit each district not less than once every three  
2 years, and may audit more frequently if the state auditor deems appropriate. The state  
3 auditor shall also audit each district before it is abolished. The costs of these audits shall  
4 be paid by the district.

238.552. 1. At such time as a district has completed its projects and has transferred  
2 ownership of the projects to the commission or other local transportation authority for  
3 maintenance, or at such time as the board determines that it is unable to complete its  
4 projects due to lack of funding or for any other reason, the board shall submit for a vote  
5 in an election held throughout the district the question of whether the district should be  
6 abolished. The question shall be submitted in substantially the following form:

7 Shall the ..... Regional Transportation Development District be abolished?

8 2. The district board shall not propose the question to abolish the district while  
9 there are outstanding claims or causes of action pending against the district, while the  
10 district liabilities exceed its assets, or while the district is insolvent, in receivership or under  
11 the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court. Before submitting the question to abolish the  
12 district to a vote, the state auditor shall audit the district to determine the financial status  
13 of the district, and whether the district may be abolished pursuant to law.



14           **3. While the district still exists, it shall continue to accrue all revenues to which it**  
15 **is entitled at law.**

16           **4. Upon receipt of certification by the appropriate election authorities that the**  
17 **majority of those voting within the district have voted to abolish the district, and if the**  
18 **state auditor has determined that the district's financial condition is such that it may be**  
19 **abolished pursuant to law, then the board shall:**

20           **(1) Sell any remaining district real or personal property, and then transfer the**  
21 **proceeds and any other real or personal property owned by the district, including revenues**  
22 **due and owing the district, to the commission or any appropriate local transportation**  
23 **authority assuming maintenance and control of the project, for its further use and**  
24 **disposition;**

25           **(2) Terminate the employment of any remaining district employees, and otherwise**  
26 **conclude its affairs;**

27           **(3) At a public meeting of the district, declare by a majority vote that the district**  
28 **has been abolished effective that date; and**

29           **(4) Cause copies of that resolution under seal to be filed with the secretary of state,**  
30 **the director of revenue, the commission, and with each local transportation authority**  
31 **affected by the district. Upon the completion of the final act specified in this subsection,**  
32 **the legal existence of the district shall cease.**